

# Lektionen / Lessons

24.1.2024, 18 h

## Eva Kernbauer

History in the Present:  
The Contemporary History Painting



Dierk Schmidt, *Untitled*, 2001/2002, oil on canvas, 50 x 70 cm, Courtesy the artist and Städel Museum, Frankfurt am Main © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2021

Sometimes history paintings tell us more about their own present than about the past they claim to depict. At the same time, whether the present is worthy of being considered part of history, and of being depicted at all, and thus the question of how to place it within the (historical) picture, is a challenge to painting. The lecture explores the fragile relationship between history and references to the present in history painting, and, in particular, traces how they are claimed in contemporary art. (Lecture in German)

Eva Kernbauer is Professor of Art History at the University of Applied Arts Vienna. Her research focuses on artistic engagements with history (most recently: *Art, History, and Anachronic Interventions since 1990*, Routledge 2022, and *Kunstgeschichtlichkeit*, ed., Fink, 2015), on contemporary art since the 1960s, and on the development of art exhibitions and concepts of the art public (*Der Platz des Publikums*, Böhlau, 2011; *Höfische Porträtkultur*, de Gruyter, 2016).

The format Lektionen / Lessons offers contexts and background information on the artworks of the exhibitions in the Paintings Gallery.

Lecture as part of the exhibition *History Tales. Fact and Fiction in History Painting*  
Entrance free

Venue: Anatomy Hall (Souterrain)

A...kademie der bildenden Künste Wien  
Kunstsammlungen  
Schillerplatz 3, 1010 Wien

[www.kunstsammlungenakademie.at](http://www.kunstsammlungenakademie.at)